



August 2026 Newsletter

As August begins and students return to the classroom, I hope you and your family are enjoying a smooth transition into the new school year. Although the General Assembly has adjourned twice this year, August signals the beginning of legislative study committee season, when lawmakers take a closer look at important issues and begin laying the groundwork for future legislation.

During the legislative interim, I remain focused on serving our district by meeting with community leaders and constituents. Our state can only remain the best place to live, work and raise a family if we come together to strengthen public safety and support hardworking families. Thank you for allowing me to serve as your state senator and represent you across our great state.

Foster Care Study Committee

This summer, I was honored to be appointed by the Lieutenant Governor to serve on the Joint Study Committee on Evaluating Escalating Costs in Georgia's Foster Care System. Throughout the interim, this committee will examine Georgia's foster care system, hear from child welfare experts, and identify ways to strengthen services while ensuring the best possible outcomes for children in foster care.

I'm grateful for the opportunity to serve on this committee and help shape policies that better support children and foster families across Georgia. By listening to those on the front lines and working together, we can build a stronger foster care system that gives every child the opportunity to grow up in a safe, stable and loving home.



Back to School

As students head back to the classroom this month, I want to wish them, their families and our dedicated educators a safe and successful school year. The first day of school is an exciting milestone, and it's important that every student has the opportunity to learn in an environment where they feel supported and ready to succeed.

During the 2025-2026 legislative biennium, the General Assembly took meaningful steps to strengthen school safety and create better learning environments for Georgia's students. We passed Ricky and Alyssa's Law to empower schools to respond more quickly during emergencies through mobile panic alert systems. We also worked to improve the classroom environment by limiting the use of personal electronic devices, first in grades K-8 and later in Georgia's high schools. Additionally, I was proud to sponsor the Emergency & Public Safety Signal Protection Act, which helps ensure that first responders can rely on uninterrupted communications during a crisis, including those that occur on school campuses.

Keeping our children safe is one of our most important responsibilities as legislators, and I will continue working to make sure our schools and first responders have the tools they need to protect Georgia's students.

Please be extra cautious on the roads with school buses, zones, stops, etc.



Emergency Preparedness

Georgia has seen its share of severe weather over the last several weeks, with summer storms hitting more days than not in the 56th Senate District. As we continue through hurricane season, now is a good time to make sure your family is prepared before the next storm arrives.

A little preparation goes a long way. Whether it's putting together an emergency kit, reviewing your family's emergency plan or staying up to date on local weather alerts, taking a few simple steps now can make all the difference. For additional preparedness tips and emergency resources, I encourage you to visit the [Georgia Emergency Management and Homeland Security Agency](#). Together, we can help keep our families and communities safe throughout hurricane season.

Please keep my fellow first responders in your prayers!



The Star-Spangled Banner



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